

Message Text

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ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 MMO-01 IGA-02

AID-05 OMB-01 TRSE-00 ABF-01 OC-06 CCO-00 /075 W

----- 116156

R 210917Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY OSLO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2498

INFO JCS

SECDEF

USCINCEUR

DIA

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BONN

C O N F I D E N T I A L OSLO 4756

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS NO

SUBJECT: TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR OFFICE OF SECURITY ASSISTANCE

REF: A) STATE 224915 B) JCS 161755Z SEP 76 C) OSLO 3927

1. THIS MESSAGE RESPONDS TO STATE MESSAGE ON THE TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE OFFICE OF SECURITY ASSISTANCE IN OSLO, AND ALSO ADDRESSES THE ISSUES RAISED BY THE JCS MESSAGE LISTED AS REF B PARA 2.

2. AS THIS PORT HAS OBSERVED PREVIOUSLY, THE ORIGINAL INTENT OF THE U.S. SECURITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM IN NORWAY HAS BEEN LARGELY FULFILLED. IT FOLLOWS THAT THE MAJORITY OF THE CURRENT MAAG NORWAY FUNCTIONS CAN MOST LOGICALLY AND EFFECTIVELY BE CONDUCTED BY OTHER USG AGENCIES AND IN SOME CASES GON

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OFFICES. NONETHELESS, WE BELIEVE THERE WILL BE CONTINUING REQUIREMENT FOR SECURITY ASSISTANCE OFFICE AT THIS MISSION.

OUR VIEWS HAVE BEEN FULLY SET FORTH IN OSLO 3927. THEREFORE, WE AGREE WITH THE DEPARTMENT'S CONCEPTION OF THE SECURITY ASSISTANCE OFFICE TO BE ESTABLISHED IN OSLO AFTER OCTOBER 1. HOWEVER, WE WOULD PREFER TO AVOID USING THE WORD "SECURITY" IN ITS TITLE AND WOULD LIKE TO GET THE WORD "MUTUAL" INTO ITS TITLE. WE LIKE AMEMBASSY BONN'S SUGGESTION OF CALLING THE OFFICE "MUTUAL DEFENSE ACTIVITIES OFFICE (MDA)", AND WOULD PROPOSE TO USE THAT TITLE IN OSLO. WE BELIEVE THIS WILL HELP THE OFFICE MAINTAIN ITS IDENTITY WITHIN THE MISSION, AND EMPHASIZE THE IMPORTANCE WE ATTACH TO OUR MUTUAL DEFENSE ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT AND OUR CONTINUED COOPERATION WITH THE GON ON MILITARY MATTERS.

3. WE HAVE EXAMINED THE FUNCTIONS OF THE MUTUAL DEFENSE ACTIVITIES OFFICE AS OUTLINED IN PARA 3 OF STATE 224915, AND SEE NO PROBLEMS IN HAVING THE OFFICE PERFORM THESE FUNCTIONS. HOWEVER, WE WOULD LIKE TO NOTE THAT PARA 3D DOES NOT MAKE CLEAR THE EXTENT OF THE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS WHICH WILL BE LEVIED ON THE OFFICE. WE WILL APPRECIATE CLARIFICATION OF THIS MATTER SINCE THE VOLUME AND NATURE OF SUCH REPORTING REQUIREMENTS COULD HAVE AN IMPACT ON OUR STAFFING PATTERN. FURTHERMORE, AS WE HAVE NOTED PREVIOUSLY, WE INTEND TO TRANSFER A GOOD PART OF THE FUNCTIONS OUTLINED IN PARA 3F AND 3G TO THE APPROPRIATE GON OFFICES. WE ALSO INTEND TO USE THE NEXT YEAR TO DRAW DOWN THE EXCESS MAP MATERIAL TO AN ABSOLUTE MINIMUM THOUGH THERE WILL CLEARLY BE SOME ON THE BOOKS EVEN THEN. THIS WILL BE ACCOMPLISHED IN COORDINATION AND WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF APPROPRIATE DOD AGENCIES.

4. IN CONSONANCE WITH OUR PREVIOUSLY STATED INTENT TO PROVIDE FOR MORE EFFECTIVE MANAGEMENT WITHIN THIS MISSION, WE WOULD PROPOSE TO TRANSFER SEVERAL NON-SECURITY ASSISTANCE FUNCTIONS OF THE MAAG TO OTHER ELEMENTS IN THE MISSION. SPECIFICALLY, WE PROPOSE THAT:

A. THE USDAO GRADUALLY ASSUME MOST OF THE CURRENT MAAG USCINCEUR CONTACT OFFICER REPRESENTATIONAL FUNCTIONS (E.G., BILATERAL LOGISTICS AGREEMENTS, CO-ORD OF OPLANS, BILATERAL EXERCISES, ETC.) AND THE DEFENSE ATTACHE BE
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DESIGNATED USCINCEUR CONTACT OFFICER ONCE THE TRANSFER OF RESPONSIBILITIES IS CONSUMMATED.

B. LIKewise, THE DATT ASSUME THE U.S. DEFENSE REPRESENTATIVE (USDR) RESPONSIBILITIES (CO-ORDINATION OF ADMIN/ SUPPORT ACTIVITIES OF NON-COMBAT DOD IN-COUNTRY ELEMENTS, PROVIDE ADVICE AND INFORMATION TO AMBASSADOR, ETC) UPON DEPARTURE OF PRESENT CHMAAG.

C. THE PUBLIC AFFAIRS RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE USCINCEUR CONTACT OFFICER (CHMAAG) BE ACCOMPLISHED BY THIS POST'S USIS OFFICE.

5. STATE HAS ASKED FOR OUR RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE NUMBER AND COMPOSITION OF PERSONNEL WE FORESEE FOR THE ABOVE ORGANIZATION PERFORMING THE FUNCTIONS INDICATED IN PARA 3 ABOVE. WE BELIEVE THE ORGANIZATION CAN BE STAFFED WITH 1 AIR FORCE LT COLONEL; 1 ARMY LT COLONEL; 1 NAVY CPO WHO WILL DO THE UNIT'S TYPING AND CLERICAL WORK. AS WE HAVE NOTED MORE EXTENSIVELY IN OSLO 3927, THIS WILL REQUIRE A CONSIDERABLE DRAW-DOWN FROM OUR PRESENT STAFFING PATTERN. WE HOPE THAT WASHINGTON WILL PROVIDE US RAPIDLY WITH SPECIFIC INFORMATION ON THE FUNDING ARRANGEMENT WHICH WILL OBTAIN AFTER OCTOBER 1. WE ARE ASSUMING THAT THE GON WILL BE WILLING TO CONTINUE THE PRESENT CONTRIBUTED FUNDING ARRANGEMENT, WHICH PROVIDES FOR THE FIVE LOCAL EMPLOYEES, DURING THE TRANSITION PERIOD OF THE NEXT YEAR AS WE GRADUALLY DECREASE OUR LOCAL EMPLOYMENT. WE HOPE TO BE ABLE TO ABSORB A NUMBER OF THESE LOCAL EMPLOYEES INTO OTHER AREAS OF THE MISSION. WE URGENTLY NEED AUTHORITY TO DISCUSS FUNDING ARRANGEMENT WITH GON. IF GON WILL NOT REIMBURSE MDA OPERATING COSTS (INCLUDING FSL WAGES) DURING THE PHASE-DOWN PERIOD, THEN WE ASSUME DOD WILL CONTINUE TO FUND MDA OPERATING PROGRAM AS OF OCT. 1. PLEASE ADVISE.

6. WE WILL ALSO NEED MAXIMUM FLEXIBILITY TO PARE DOWN THE AMERICAN CONTINGENT OF THE OFFICE OVER THE NEXT YEAR. TO REITERATE, THE STRUCTURE WE FORESEE IN A YEAR WOULD INVOLVE ONLY 3 PEOPLE, ALL OF THEM AMERICAN MILITARY PERSONNEL; HOWEVER, WE INTEND THAT
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TASK REDUCTION PRECEED STAFF REDUCTION SO AS TO ALLOW, IN ANY CASE, FOR THE RETENTION OF SUFFICIENT STAFF ADEQUATELY PERFORM ALL RESIDUAL FUNCTIONS.

7. THE MDA WILL BE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE MISSION WORKING FOR THE AMBASSADOR UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE DCM. CONSISTENT WITH OUR VIEWS EXPRESSED PREVIOUSLY, THE AMBASSADOR BELIEVES THAT GOOD MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE DICTATES THAT HE BE RESPONSIBLE FOR PREPARING EFFECTIVENESS REPORTS ON THE MDA.

8. NO DIFFICULTY IS ANTICIPATED IN PROVIDING COMMUNICATIONS AND ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT, THOUGH WE WILL NEED, AS MENTIONED ABOVE, AN EARLY INDICATION OF THE FUNDING AND ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS WHICH WASHINGTON HAS IN MIND TO BE CERTAIN OF OUR ABILITY TO PROVIDE SUCH SUPPORT. THE MDA WILL USE STATE DEPARTMENT COMMUNICATIONS. MESSAGES ORIGINATING

WITH THE MDA WILL BE APPROVED BY THE AMBASSADOR, THE
DCM OR THE HEAD OF THE MDA DEPENDING ON EACH
MESSAGE'S CONTENT. WE SUPPORT THE IDEA OF A SPECIAL
CAPTION FOR MDA TRAFFIC. PLEASE ADVISE WHAT KIND OF
DIPLOMATIC TITLES MDA STAFF WILL HAVE.
ANDERS

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